

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 219833 TOSEC 260062

41

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:RPERITO

APPROVED BY S/S-O:RPERITO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 219833 TOSEC 260062

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 11947 ACTION SECSTATE 4 SEP 76

QUOTE

S E C R E T CAIRO 11947

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, EG, IS

SUBJECT: AMOCO OPERATION IN GULF OF SUEZ: MESSAGE TO

FAHMY

REF: STATE 219126

1. I GAVE FAHMY YOUR MESSAGE THIS MORNING ABOUT THE ISRAELI HARASSMENT OF AMOCO DRILLING OPERATIONS. HE READ IT WITH INTEREST AND SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR THAT WE ARE MAKING CLEAR TO THE ISRAELIS OUR SUPPORT FOR AMOCO OPERATIONS IN THE RAMADAN FIELD. THE ISSUE IS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO EGYPT AND THE PRESIDENT REGARDS IT AS A TEST CASE. THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF THE RAMADAN FIELD IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO EGYPT IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE, SINCE IT HAS PROMISING OIL

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PROSPECTS. HE AGAIN CRITICIZED THE ACTION OF THE

MARINER FOREMAN IN LEAVING THE AREA AND WAS EVEN MORE ANNOYED TO HAVE LEARNED THAT AMOCO AND GUPCO, ITS EGYPTIAN PARTNER, HAD EARLIER AGREED UPON A GAME PLAN WHICH CALLED FOR THE RIG'S DEPARTURE IN THE FACE OF ISRAELI HARASSMENT. FAHMY SAID HE APPRECIATES OUR EFFORTS AND WANTS TO KEEP IN TOUCH ON THIS MATTER.

2. COMMENT: IT IS IRONIC THAT I SEEM TO HAVE DELIVERED THE LETTER AT THE VERY TIME A NEW INCIDENT IS IN THE MAKING AT THE 304.1 SITE (SEPTTEL). I FEAR THAT SINCE WE AGAIN NOTIFIED THE ISRAELIS THAT THE RIG WOULD GO OUT THIS MORNING, THEY WERE THERE WAITING WHEN IT SHOWED UP. MAYBE THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN ANYWAY.

EILTS
UNQUOTE
ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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